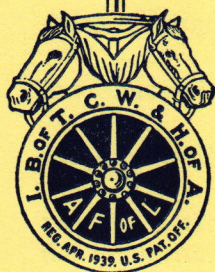


# The **INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER**

JUNE, 1943



*Official Magazine*  
 INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
 TEAMSTERS...CHAUFFEURS  
 WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS  
 OF AMERICA

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## Republican Policy Wavering

**T**HE Republican party reluctantly indorses President Roosevelt's demand for unconditional surrender as our terms of peace for Germany and Japan.

But it says we should not discuss plans for international cooperation after the war to prevent another war.

However, it vaguely supports the principle of international cooperation.

That sounds like an employer saying he believes in unions but won't sign a union agreement.

How we are to achieve any kind of cooperation after the war unless we lay the groundwork for it now, the Republicans don't tell us. That is, they don't tell us officially.

A few Republicans, like Senator Ball of Minnesota and Senator Burton of Ohio, are trying to tell us. They have joined with Senator Hatch of New Mexico and Senator Hill of Alabama to introduce a resolution committing the United States senate to post-war cooperation with our allies.

The action of these four men, two Democrats and two Republicans, has raised the peace question from the realm of partisan politics. It is now a question of national policy.

It seeks to avoid the world-wide havoc the senate created after the last war because it played partisan politics with international affairs.

Apparently the Republican party hesitates to indorse anything that does not condemn President Roosevelt.

It is looking to the months that precede the next presidential election instead of the years that will follow it.

The American people, however, are more interested in winning a war for their children than they are in winning an election for the Republican party.

The Republicans cannot enter the next campaign on nothing but an anti-Roosevelt platform. Roosevelt has been right too often and has won the confidence of the people.

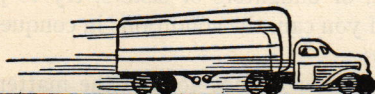
Nor can they enter the campaign on a platform which accepts international cooperation in theory but discards it in practice.

Either course will spell defeat.

The public can clarify the air by insisting to their senators that the Ball-Hatch-Hill-Burton resolution be passed at once. Then, with that question settled, the Republican party can figure out its campaign for itself and we won't need to worry about losing the peace to help the Republicans win the election.



# The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



**Official Magazine** INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS  
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

Vol. XL

JUNE, 1943

Number 7

## Some Grumble While Others Die

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

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IT is extremely difficult to understand life  
and what appears to us to be the in-  
justice of life. Only faith and a belief in the  
supreme justice of God can reconcile men  
and women of today to many of the awful  
catastrophes and personal sufferings to  
which they are subjected.

Thousands of young men will give up  
their lives in unselfish sacrifice before the  
struggle with the enemies of civilization is  
ended in Europe and Asia.

Young men, the pride of their parents,  
brilliant, healthy, ambitious, clean physi-  
cally and spiritually, will have their bodies  
strewn or scattered in the different parts of  
the world, or buried at sea, before this awful  
struggle is ended.

No matter what sacrifice we at home are  
called upon to make in our country, we  
should make it without grumbling.

That means that if we are disap-  
pointed because the cost of living has  
not been held down, or because we are  
not able to get increases in wages, or  
because we are rationed to such an  
extent that many of us are seriously  
inconvenienced—all of those sacri-  
fices amount to nothing compared to  
the human sacrifices made on the fight-  
ing fields of foreign lands.

And then think of the misery endured by  
the Poles, who have been starved and per-



secuted; and of the Czechs, with their courage; and of the Greeks, who have been almost destroyed.

Imagine, if you can, the sufferings of those they left behind them, because death is much more acceptable than living under the conditions now obtaining in the trampled countries of Europe. Starvation, disease, hatreds, suspicion, prevail everywhere.

Crimes against men and women are so prevalent that thousands of young women have taken their own lives to avoid the awful indignities the Germans would compel them to suffer.

It is even nauseating to attempt to write of the sufferings of those people. Bombing their homes and destroying their property—that's trivial compared to the sufferings they are now enduring in many of those conquered countries.

**Then isn't it disgusting to hear some Americans grumbling here at home? No doubt it is because they don't understand the price others are paying to maintain liberty and civilization.**

That's why I contend that no matter what

our sufferings are here under present conditions, they are nothing compared to the sufferings over there. Any one of you who has a wife, or daughters or sisters, try to picture, if you can, the conditions in conquered nations.

The writer cannot go into the matter in much more detail, but there never was a time in human history in which such degradation and cruelty and injustice prevailed amongst the white races of the world. We expect very little from the barbarous Japs who, with a religious hatred, despise all other races except themselves.

Bear up, then, and spread a word of encouragement amongst those with whom you come in contact. You have a job to do and your job is to prevent grumbling and discontent and dissatisfaction from spreading its venomous, serpent-like fangs amongst the workers of our country, especially amongst your associates, to the end that all of us can offer up whatever little sacrifices we are called upon to make in this hour in which light and justice are trying to overcome evil, cruelty and darkness.

## John L. Lewis Opens His Big Mouth

**D**OES John L. Lewis know that the United States of America is fighting for its life?

Is he aware of the fact that American blood has been spilled on many battlefields, and that much more is certain to be spilled before the conflict ends?

Does he realize that those young men who have given their lives for their country have done so to protect the privileges of free Americans, one of which is the right to join labor unions and to bargain collectively to improve their working conditions?

Has he considered the effect of the coal mining crisis on the morale of Americans, particularly the members of the armed forces who know that their chances of survival are lessened every time he opens his big mouth?

Does he realize that the truce he signed

with the United States government was an admission that he had started a war against the United States?

Is he conscious of the fact that his actions affected adversely every working man and woman in the country?

Is he aware that if the miners are given the \$2-a-day wage increase which he seeks for them that they and all other working persons will lose much more than \$2 a day through inflation that would be an inevitable result of the giving of such a wage increase?

Does he realize that he is organized labor's greatest enemy? Is he aware that Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini must regard him as one of their closest friends?

**WE BELIEVE THAT THE ANSWER TO ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS IS A LOUD "YES."**—*The Indiana Teamster.*



# Teamsters Solve War Problems

## — Labor-Management Program Successful

BY OTTO S. BEYER

*Director of Transport Personnel, Office of Defense Transportation*

SEVERAL months ago, members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in 25 cities were asked by the Office of Defense Transportation and the National Labor-Management Committee of the for-hire trucking industry to join with the operators in those areas in setting up local labor-management cooperative committees.

The committees were established and results of the effort were so satisfactory that a short while ago organization of the local groups was extended to eight additional communities.

The primary purpose of the local committees, which operate under programs and policies set up by the national committee, was to survey local manpower situations within the industry and to lay plans for meeting existing and anticipated shortages.

The functions of the local groups have been broadened to include the establishment of training programs and the transfer of men from light to heavy equipment and from less essential to more essential trucking service.

Educational programs have been recommended as a means of reducing absenteeism, and publicity programs have been suggested to bring the desirability and essentiality of motor transport service to the public mind.

Since shortages of manpower are by no means the only wartime problem facing the industry, local joint labor-management committees also have been asked to promote campaigns aimed at the conservation of rubber, parts and equipment.

Rapidly the local labor-management committees swung into action and the results of their efforts have been highly satisfactory. Since it would be impossible to describe here all of the accomplishments of the local

groups, a resumé of some of the work of three committees may point to the benefits which can be realized through the cooperation of labor and management on a community basis.

In Cincinnati, where a personnel survey showed the industry faces an acute manpower shortage, a labor supply office was established. Drivers working short time or engaged in non-essential activities are requested to report to this office for training in the operation of heavy-duty equipment and transfer to essential war work.

Attention was called to the need for care of equipment through the wide circulation of a poster which also announced that free instruction is offered drivers, dispatchers and dock and warehouse workers.

The Cincinnati committee has also planned a complete training program which has as its aims the establishment of an adequate supply of trained personnel for essential transportation and the utilization of the highest skills of present personnel.

Composed of representatives of labor and industry, the program committee enlisted the aid of the apprentice and training service of the War Manpower Commission and the department of vocational education of the Cincinnati public schools.

Local unions have pledged their full support and cooperation to the labor-management committee and its undertakings and have agreed to pool their manpower in any way that might benefit the war program.

Another example of the effectiveness of local labor-management cooperation in meeting the wartime problems of the trucking industry is found in Philadelphia.

The committee in that city conducted a manpower survey which revealed absentee-



ism as one of the major contributory factors to labor shortages. As a result of the study, every employee in the industry in the Philadelphia area received a notice reminding him of the essentiality of his work and urging him to stay on the job.

Upgrading within the industry is being fostered by the committee and assistance is being given carriers in the preparation of replacement schedules.

A few months ago the committee climaxed its initial efforts with a "Keep 'Em Rolling" rally which pointed to the need for conservation of tires and equipment and which was addressed by representatives to the Office of Defense Transportation, the American Trucking Associations, and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

An extensive program also has been undertaken by the labor-management committee in Los Angeles where a survey showed an acute manpower shortage throughout the industry.

In addition to instituting training programs for drivers, the committee has met with the local lodges of the International Association of Machinists in the area in an

effort to stabilize present mechanical personnel and to arrange for basic training of new workers. Conferences have been held with the War Manpower Commission on area personnel problems and with representatives of selective service concerning deferment of essential employees.

These are by no means all of the undertakings of the local labor-management committees. The three referred to in this article and others throughout the country are making many more contributions to help the industry meet its wartime problems and to assist the Office of Defense Transportation in obtaining maximum utilization of transportation facilities.

There is no expectation either on the part of the committees or on the part of government that labor-management cooperation on a local scale or on a national scale can solve all of the problems which beset the industry.

The achievements of the committees now operating, however, leave no doubt that full cooperation of labor and industry can bring great relief to the tightening situation resultant from the war.

## Apparently Japs Are His Favorite Color

**R**EMEMBER Congressman William P. Lambertson of Kansas? He's the fellow who says the Farm Security Administration should be wiped out so that the little farmers couldn't get any more help from the government to produce food to win the war.

He said the little farmers should be kept broke so they would have to go to work for the big farmers as hired men.

He is the isolationist who voted against all measures to defend this country.

He is the same isolationist who arose in congress to accuse the President of keeping his sons out of action. When he said that, the four Roosevelt boys were scattered

around the world risking their lives in battle — the fighting sons of a fighting father.

And where was Lambertson's son? He wasn't even in uniform. He had a soft federal job and he tried to escape service altogether because he said he was opposed to war. He was living in safety behind the four Roosevelt boys and the millions of other boys who are opposed to war also — which is why they are fighting so hard against those who brought it on us.

Lambertson's son is carrying on the family tradition. His father did not serve in the last war. The boy doesn't want to fight Japs. Apparently they're his favorite color.

---

There's talk of subsidies, when and if prices are reduced. Why subsidies? That's simple: so that the farmer and the big fellow may continue to reap a golden harvest out of the war.—*The Washington Teamster.*



# Roosevelt Depends on Labor to Prevent Inflation

BY JOSEPH M. CASEY

*International Representative, Office of the General President*

OUR nation's lack of appreciation of the power a well organized labor movement contributes to its life and well being demands comment and study. Our ability to change, in the space of one year, from an unarmed country to the most powerful war machine in the world was due almost entirely to the fact that American workers in very large numbers were organized into well-disciplined labor unions.

Organized labor, alone and single-handed, fought to preserve the initiative and skill of American mechanics from the ravages of the mass production mania. The sorely-needed skilled mechanics who got our war production program rolling were *union mechanics*.

The apprenticeship training in all crafts and trades, vitally necessary in the beginning, would have died aborning if it was not for the vast storehouse of practical information and study made available by craft unions.

Together with tried and tested theories of apprenticeship training, labor unions supplied competent and able tutors who took up the difficult task of teaching groups by the thousands, until this shortage passed the critical stage.

And while all of this was going on, that disgraceful portion of our press, paid and pampered by the profit-drunk capitalists of old, outdid itself in an effort to discredit organized labor.

The record stands, and a glorious record it is, in spite of the sickly pulings of the paid parrots of the air.

This essential contribution of twelve million organized American workers cannot and must not be longer ignored. God forbid that

the day will ever come when this vast body of real men might grow sick of their lying critics and relent, even a little bit, in their arduous task of winning the war.

This phase of organized labor's war effort, important as it is, yields in significance and worth to labor's part in another more subtle and deadlier war — the war against inflation. Glorious victories will be won on the battlefronts of the world, but how empty these will be if at home the foundations of our economy crumble, and poverty confronts the returning warriors?

Some portions of organized labor are cognizant of the devastating effects of inflation. Many of them had a bitter experience with the crazy money of the 1920's and the well nigh disastrous crash of October 19, 1929. The early 1930's brought them to their senses and under the accepted leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt, they formed a powerful labor movement that still holds the public eye.

Our great President has been falsely accused of raising this army of workers for political purposes. His accusers are the identical men who left him the terrible mess of depression, unemployment and want back in 1932. These are the funny money boys who ruined our country after the First World War and have ever since thrown obstacles in President Roosevelt's way.

Undoubtedly organized labor owes its growth and size to President Roosevelt and was developed for specific purposes. Nineteen twenty-nine saw the tragic end of one inflationary era and the two years that followed saw the efforts of big shot Republicans to do a comeback. The real comeback started with the election of Franklin D.



Roosevelt. One of the things uppermost in the new President's mind was to prepare the vast bulk of American workers for a responsible and influential place in his program of recovery.

A superficial study of the "house of cards" the Republicans built in the 1920's discloses how common American workers were totally ignored in the general scheme of things. In a real democracy this just could not be, and taking a valuable lesson from the faults of his enemies, President Roosevelt immediately arranged for the complete and unhampered right of common American workers to organize and contribute their full share in the fight against the Republican-made depression.

Immediately some of the prime factors of the depression began to disappear. A more equitable distribution of the nation's wealth gradually became more and more noticeable. This in turn gave rise to a greater national purchasing power which was reflected in an amazing jump in the nation's yearly business.

Certainly President Roosevelt is the friend of organized labor, but only in the sense that he is also the friend and benefactor of the United States of America. He helped the common man of America in the only way he could be helped, namely, through organization. Our President did this for the direct personal benefit of the individual worker himself, as well as for the material and very definite benefit of our country as a whole.

President Roosevelt used the American labor movement very effectively in his battle against depression, and if it had not been for the sudden involvement in the Second World War, conditions indicated that he would have been successful.

With the Second World War on his hands, he called upon organized labor to accept its part without complaint, and again his foresight and confidence in the American worker was vindicated.

Now, however, a new kind of terror stalks our nation. War-made prosperity has

hit us with a bang. It's money, money, everywhere, with less and less to buy. All of the effective remedies that were set in motion to beat off a depression now have to be brought under control and checked. As exasperating as such a situation is, it can be mastered.

From fighting depression to fighting inflation is about the most complete reversal imaginable. This about-face has confused everybody. Farmer, businessman and worker alike were moving along fairly stable roads to better things, when suddenly they were told to halt. Some asked "Why?" Some complacently ignored the order, and still others raved and fought the decree. In this difficult circumstance, the foresight of President Roosevelt in developing a powerful American labor movement is again astonishingly vindicated.

The American labor movement today comprises twelve million workers, and with their dependents included, well nigh thirty million people are represented.

This tremendous sector of our population, because of organization, is readily amenable to discipline. Regardless of critics, blind to the facts, this condition within labor's ranks reduced to a minimum destructive strikes in our defense industries.

A further application of these disciplinary mechanisms, voluntarily in force in the family of labor, is being effectively made in the war against inflation. In the face of frozen wages and frozen jobs, organized labor has held its head. If this is the sacrifice a military victory and a victory against inflation entails, American labor, because it is properly organized, will accept this burden.

There will be deflections, surely, but far and wide, organized labor, through cooperation, will present the most powerful single weapon against the inflation spiral.

Strictly speaking, organized labor never refused to accept its role in this respect. Because it was in a position to respond immediately, it chafed just a little at the



unwillingness of farmers and big and little businessmen to fall in line.

While wages and jobs were frozen, farm blocs moved in for higher prices, big industries disgraced themselves through profit-hungry and even fraudulent transactions, and businessmen selling direct to the consumer raised their prices once and as high as five times over. However, the great stabilizing factor that tended to bring all other business elements into line was organized labor, and never a voice was raised in recognition of the unique type of leadership President Roosevelt gave our country by his personal development of such a powerful factor.

His ability to reason with and secure the cooperation of thirty million American working people can only be appreciated by those who know how a real democracy

should function. In his fight against inflation, the President would have been completely lost as to the first effective weapon to use, if it had not been for organized labor.

Inflation, if it comes, will leave both labor and business in a desolate state. The only thing that will be plentiful will be worthless—*money!* There will be money in abundance with nothing to buy. Why? Who wants to produce for money that is valueless? Once the deadly spiral of inflation is set in motion, wages, bank deposits and insurance policies, whether large or small, will hit the skids to zero.

Organized workers know this, and for this reason they willingly lend their union movement to be used by the President of the United States as the most powerful weapon against the curse of inflation.

## Another Soldier Says Farewell

President Daniel J. Tobin,  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Sir:

In the May issue of the International Teamster I read the nice letter you received from Eugene Hubbard, secretary-treasurer of Local Union No. 246. To me it was a sharp reminder that I was forgetful to the point of discourtesy in not having written to you at the time I left my own local union, the Dairy Employees' Union No. 754, Chicago.

I wish to assure the general president that my forgetfulness was not intentional. One does not leave a good job, a fine family, and the comforts of a nice home without undergoing some emotional strain. Also, the readjustment incidental to the change from civil life to life in the army is not always an easy one.

As president and business representative of the Dairy Employees' Union, I loved my job and thoroughly enjoyed my work. And few men, I am sure, have enjoyed the happy home life that it has been my privilege to enjoy. So if I may have seemed forgetful please excuse me.

Please know that excepting for the position I hold at present, I have never been more proud than when I was president of the Dairy Employees' Union and a part of the great organization which is the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

May good fortune attend all your endeavors and may the fates keep you at the head of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters during this great crisis through which our Nation is passing.

Respectfully yours,

LIEUT. AUGUST BURNIER.

Commanding Officer, Company B, 67th Repl. Bn.,  
Camp Walters, Texas.



## *Kaiser Changes Diapers While Mothers Build Ships*

AS A STUDENT of industrial problems, Henry J. Kaiser has, as usual, come up with another answer. He is establishing a million-dollar nursery.

What has this to do with industrial problems?

Well, it is the solution of one of the greatest causes of absenteeism.

Kaiser found that it was impossible to prevent absenteeism among women with small children. And with the increasing shortage of men, Kaiser has turned to women to keep his ships rolling down the ways like sausages out of a meat grinder.

Kaiser analyzed the absentee situation and found the reasons for it. He did this without sitting on a raft and listening to sea gulls.

He reached the conclusion that the problem of child care must be solved before the absences of their mothers could be overcome.

So he decided to install a system of nurseries. They won't be in empty barns or deserted warehouses. Each nursery will be a new building, especially designed and equipped for the care of small children. Here the children can play and eat under expert supervision while their mothers are backing up their fathers on the fighting fronts.

A nominal charge of less than \$1 per day will be made for each child. And as another move to ease the domestic cares of working mothers, Kaiser has installed a kitchen at which women can buy the main course of their dinners, already cooked, as they quit work.

Without having to worry about shopping or the safety of their children, the women shipbuilders can now spend their full time in the big battle to beat the German submarines.

If it would help, Kaiser would probably see that the beds were made. He is already changing the diapers.

This is typical of the foresightedness Kaiser has always shown. He wants production and he gets production. He has revolutionized shipbuilding methods with a speed that has left industry aghast.

He has proposed similar methods for airplane construction.

When Kaiser starts a project, he doesn't haggle over wages and he doesn't try to cut corners on the unions. He calls in the union representatives, tells them what he wants and asks them to draw up a contract guaranteeing top scales for all his workers.

He asks only that there be no work stoppages to interfere with his production. The method of adjusting all disputes in stride is provided in the agreement with union representatives and everybody goes to work.

Kaiser is constantly looking ahead to assure his source of materials. He has geologists at work investigating the deposits of ore in the Pacific Northwest. Out of his pioneering, steel mills may spring up close to his western shipyards as another link in his chain of production.

Kaiser leaves nothing to chance. He is building a new industrial empire on a foundation of good wages and labor union cooperation.

The steel industry is opposing Kaiser's plans to open mines and construct mills on the Pacific Coast. So far, it has controlled steel production and centered it in the East.

The prohibitive cost of shipping ore west effectively blocks competition from western mills. If Kaiser finds his own ore deposits on the timbered slopes of the Cascade mountains or the Sierra Nevadas, he can laugh at the steel combine,



It is rather significant that at this time Kaiser should encounter trouble from the unions that are most closely connected with the steel industry of the East.

The labor trouble consists of the unjustified attack of CIO unions on the contracts held by Kaiser with the AFL. The steel industry cannot stop Kaiser so now the steel unions step forward.

The shipbuilders and the airplane manufacturers are also sore at Kaiser. He started competition and he showed them up.

So, naturally, they encourage any move that would cause Kaiser trouble and reduce his remarkable production record. They don't stop to think that if Kaiser builds less ship, our troops will get less supplies.

Kaiser has been a tonic to American industry in an emergency.

There is every reason to believe he will be a similar tonic in our peacetime economy.

The unions of the American Federation of Labor will continue to support Kaiser and contribute everything they have to his industrial revival.

## *Teamsters Collect Back Pay*

BY DEXTER L. LEWIS

*Director, Central States Drivers' Council*

**T**HE Central States Drivers' Council has been successful in cleaning up one of the outstanding problems that it was faced with under the contract which became effective November 15, 1941, and which is presently in effect.

There had been in existence since the first area agreement four truck lines whose primary business was the transportation of freight for carloading companies who had continually violated all wage conditions and working conditions of the area contracts.

Through the fine cooperation of the representatives of local unions which constitute the official family of the Central States Drivers' Council, a program was launched in June, 1942, to bring these companies in line with the area agreement and collect back wages due the employees of those companies.

To do this while operating under the International Union's "no-strike" pledge was considered a nearly impossible task.

The Central States Drivers' Council is proud to announce that while there are a

few matters with one of these companies which have yet to go before the area referee for interpretation, the back-pay claims have been settled and the operators are presently in the process of observing all terms and conditions of the area contract, as well as binding themselves to participate in and be bound by future negotiations in the Central States area.

This fine achievement is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished without strike when the coordinated efforts of all Teamsters' unions in a specific area are used on any employer.

While there is no doubt in anyone's mind that the employees concerned in these particular operations have suffered unduly while this program was being carried to a successful conclusion, the fact remains that through the efforts of the Central States Drivers' Council these companies have been placed in a position where they will never again be able to take short-cuts of any description with any member of any Teamsters' local union, regardless of the size of the local union concerned.

Wages, after all, are relative. The wage earner should not be so much interested in the amount as he should be in the purchasing power of that amount.

—*Washington State Labor News.*



## Congress Will Enact Labor Laws —

# *Secretaries Must Be Bonded*

**O**UR local secretary-treasurers are about as square and honest a bunch of union officials as can be found anywhere. They will compare favorably with any other branch of our modern society, even with employees handling money in banks.

It is well to remind the new secretary-treasurers and officers who have come into our union within the last year or two, that they should study the constitution of the International Union.

Under that constitution all secretary-treasurers must be bonded.

If they are not bonded the union loses all its benefits from the International Union, and furthermore, under present contemplated laws the executive board of the local union can be held responsible and charged with negligence of their duties in not seeing to it that the secretary-treasurer is bonded.

A copy of the bond should be sent to the International office for safekeeping. The bond is not expensive and the local union should pay that expense.

If the secretary-treasurer of a local union of 500 members collects in dues \$1,000 a month, he should be bonded for \$1,000.

The trustees should have placed in their keeping as the property of the local union, the original bond of the secretary-treasurer. Local unions can receive applications for bond from General Secretary-Treasurer John M. Gillespie, 222 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Local union officers can be bonded by a local bonding company, or by any local official of the bonding company, but we prefer that the bond be procured from some company recommended by the International office, with which we are doing business and on which we can rely in case of any misunderstanding arising in the future.

There should be two bank accounts for a local union. The money that is not neces-

sary for daily or weekly use should be deposited in the bank and should be subject to withdrawal on the signatures of two of the officers, namely, the president and the secretary-treasurer.

Then there should be another account, depending upon the size of the local union, of \$400 or \$500, subject to one signature on the check, that of the secretary-treasurer.

This second fund should be used for the payment of current bills, and when that amount is depleted it should be replenished with further deposits. This is our procedure in the International office.

If a local union has 5,000 members and four or five paid officers, then the amount should be increased in proportion to the needs of the local union.

Our constitution requires that all payments of salaries to local officers and all other bills shall be paid by check. This protects the individual and it protects the local union and the secretary-treasurer of the local union.

The present anti-labor laws will, in our judgment, be passed by the Congress of the United States, and those laws will demand an accounting of all moneys taken in and paid out by all local unions. It would be well now for our local secretary-treasurers to proceed on this basis for their own protection.

At any rate, this is the law and has been the law of the International Union for many years past.

If local secretary-treasurers are not bonded the local loses its rights, it may be that it would lose its money, and the members of the executive board of the local union can be held responsible by the International Union and by the legal authorities for failure to see to it that the local secretary-treasurer is bonded.



# Negro "Leader" Stirs Race Hate

## — Randolph Circulates Axis Propaganda

BY LESTER M. HUNT

**W**HEN the Japs moved on Burma they got a lot of help from the inside. They got it from Burmese who believed they had been discriminated against by the English.

The Burmese fell — like the suckers they were — for the Jap propaganda against the white race which conveniently ignored the fact that Japan's greatest allies in brutality are the white-skinned Germans.

But the Burmese didn't stop to think about that. When they listened to the Jap propagandists they weren't even as smart as Little Red Riding Hood who exclaimed to the disguised wolf — "What big teeth you have, Grandma."

The Burmese didn't even notice the big teeth of the Jap wolves. All they noticed was the soft, seductive hiss that came through those teeth.

They convinced themselves that they were being mistreated by the white race, which denied them "equality." They let the Japs convince them that they would be treated better by their Asiatic brothers when all the white throats had been cut.

### They Got Jap "Equality"

So thousands of them threw in with the Japs and threw off their yoke of fancied persecution and "discrimination."

The Japs conquered Burma and the brown-skinned Burmese welcomed them as brothers and rejoiced in their reunion.

What has happened since?

The Burmese want the British back. They want anybody who will throw out the Japs. They have had a sample of Jap equality.

They have seen their relatives hung from trees for infractions of Jap military rules. They have seen the fiendish tortures of the Japs carried on in public to strike terror to the hearts of the Burmese.

Some Burmese who resented the fact that the British didn't sit down to eat with them have found that the Japs don't either. In fact, the Japs won't even let them eat.

They have commandeered the food and when a hungry native is caught stealing any, his hands are cut off and he is proudly exhibited in his agony as a warning to his friends and relatives.

All of this is by way of comment on a recent pamphlet which came through the mails addressed to labor publications.

### Sows Seed of Insurrection

The pamphlet is published by the "March on Washington Movement," a Negro propaganda organization. The national director of that organization is A. Philip Randolph, who, as head of the Sleeping Car Porters, poses as a union leader, but whose remarks about other unions are more unreasonable and vitriolic than any which ever came from the National Association of Manufacturers.

The pamphlet issued by Randolph carries the shocking threat that American Negroes may be lured by the same propaganda the Japs used on the Burmese.

It sows the seed of insurrection by inflaming the black race against the white. It diverts their attention from the foreign foes of America to magnified grievances at home and arouses distrust of the army now fighting on a dozen fronts so that all men can be free from the threat of slavery.

It deliberately plants the fear in Negro soldiers that they will return to race riots after the war.

And will the Negro soldiers see it? Leave that to Randolph. He plans to circulate one million copies of his hymn of hate which concludes with the following plea to passion:

*"After this war we will be lucky if the army's racial policies inflict nothing worse*



on us than race riots. A new and sinister kind of political doctrine has arisen since the last war which feeds on racial antagonisms. . . .

*"Unless the present policies of the armed forces are greatly liberalized, the veterans of our jimcrow army and navy will make the best possible post-war breeding ground of a new native fascism.*

### Not Traitors — "Yet"

*"Nor is the danger confined by any means to the white veterans. The 'Pacific Movement of the Eastern World' was launched by Japanese agents with the slogan:*

*"The Japanese are brothers of the Negroes and the Negro race will be better off under Japanese rule than under white rule."*

*"This kind of propaganda has attracted little support among Negroes — yet.*

*"But already many sincere and intelligent American Negroes are thinking in the terms expressed in a dialogue recently reported between a Negro teacher and student:*

*"STUDENT: I hope Hitler wins this war.*

*"TEACHER: How can you make such a statement?"*

*"STUDENT: Because I am convinced that it is the only thing that will teach these white people some sense — their knowing what it means to be oppressed.*

*"TEACHER: But don't you realize that conditions would be even worse under Hitler?"*

*"STUDENT: They can't possibly be any worse than they are for Negroes in the South right now. The army jimcrows us. The navy lets us serve only as messmen. The Red Cross segregates our blood. Employers and labor unions shut us out. Lynchings continue. We are disfranchised, jimcrowed, spat upon. What more could Hitler do than that?"*

*"When this dialogue was reported to a Negro audience recently it was greeted with*

*cheers. On the basis of jimcrows in uniform to date, it is not hard to understand those cheers."*

Such statements are obviously intended to fan the fire of racial antagonism. If the pamphlet succeeds it will be another great propaganda victory for Goebbels. Goebbels will gleefully view it as proof of his theory that the German race is superior to all others and that Negroes are as stupid as the Germans have proclaimed them to be.

Certainly the pamphlet just issued cannot be considered by anyone, no matter how friendly to the Negro race, as any evidence of ordinary common sense.

It is difficult to understand the mental processes of a man who decries against racial discrimination and then does his utmost to stir it up.

It looks like he wanted to create racial prejudice in order to prove he was right when he charged it existed. Maybe it does exist to various degrees in various sections of the country.

But the kind of propaganda the self-appointed Negro saviors are now circulating can do nothing but intensify it where it exists and arouse it where it does not exist.

Consider this, for instance. The pamphlet supports the action of a Negro draftee who refused to serve in any black military unit, probably considering himself superior to his race.

Whatever his motives, this man defied the government of the United States in war and refused the call to service.

That's good stuff, according to Randolph.

He says the defiant Negro is asserting his rights in refusing to submit to prejudicial treatment.

But is any white man permitted to say where he will serve and where he will not serve? Is he permitted to defy the government if he does not receive special consideration?

He is not.

Yet Randolph claims this privilege for Negroes. He demands special privileges which are denied to white men. That isn't



racial equality or any other kind of equality.

That's what Randolph asks the labor press of America to support. Labor is not sympathetic to such appeals. Almost two million members of labor are in the armed services.

They went where they were assigned and did what they were told to do. They did not ask or receive any preferential consideration. They did not refuse to serve with their own people.

The pamphlet cynically quotes another Negro who refused to fight because, he said, "this is a white man's war and it's no damn good."

It is our opinion that the purpose of quoting this Negro is to give others the same idea and it suggests they can defy the government without penalty because "you can't send 13 million people to jail."

When Randolph says this is a "white man's war" he must be color-blind. Our allies are the yellow-skinned Chinese, the brown-skinned Filipinos and the black-skinned people of every locality that has come in contact with the Japs.

Our military success in the South Pacific islands has been greatly aided by the cooperation of the black residents of those islands.

Every black tribe that has met the Japs and the Americans is the loyal ally of the Americans.

Let Randolph bear that in mind when he tries to arouse the Negroes of America against their government in its struggle for survival against the yellow barbarians of

Asia and the white barbarians of Europe.

And let Randolph remember the warning given him by President Tobin at the American Federation of Labor convention in Toronto last fall.

At that time President Tobin spoke bluntly to answer a speech by Randolph which was so full of falsehoods, threats and racial incitement that it could not be permitted to pass unchallenged.

President Tobin told him his actions were undermining the future progress of the Negro race. He said his remarks were an abuse of the rights of free speech.

**"Sooner or later this kind of stuff will have to be stopped," Tobin warned.**

It would stop very quickly if the Negro people could see what is going on in Burma under the Japs. And how the Japs treated every black tribe they conquered.

And they should not forget that it was Hitler who said that Negroes were half apes. It is Hitler's policy to exterminate inferior people and according to his theory, Negroes are not even people.

If Hitler wins they will be treated like the beasts he says they are.

Why doesn't Randolph tell them that?

Maybe, like Goebbels, he thinks they are not so smart.

Our own opinion is that they are a lot smarter than Randolph.

That's why so many of them belong to the Teamsters' Union and listen to men like President Tobin and not to men like Randolph.

## ARE THEY AFRAID OF THE PEOPLE?

It's a little tiresome to read almost daily in our newspapers what editors, columnists, and senators and representatives say about a fourth term for President Roosevelt. There seems to be a real fear that he will be returned to the White House by the people.

At least one newspaper — the *Times-Herald* in Washington — has forbidden him to run again, and influential senators and representatives rush to the newspapers with horror whenever it is mentioned.

We can't understand why if a senator or representative can be re-elected for term after term, serving in congress for as much as 40 years, the people of this nation can't return a President to the White House as long as they want him there.

The best interests of this country will be served by having him as commander-in-chief at least as long as this war lasts, and he should represent our nation at the peace table.

—*East Bay Labor Journal, Oakland, Calif.*



## *Victory Rode Trucks in Tunisia*

### **— Moved Faster than German Blitzkrieg**

**A**MERICAN truck drivers and American-made trucks played a vital role in the Allied victory in Tunisia, reports from the battle areas to the War Department have disclosed.

Lightning-like troop movements, some of which were made under cover of darkness, constantly caught the enemy by surprise and made his so-called blitzkrieg tactics of 1939 and 1940 seem slow by comparison.

One of the American thrusts that led to the final defeat of the Axis in North Africa was the capture of the enemy stronghold of Gafsa. Throughout the night trucks loaded with American troops moved steadily across the 45 miles of "No Man's Land" separating American and Axis forces. Before dawn, under the expert guiding hands of the drivers, the trucks reached the final jumpoff lines, where the soldiers unloaded for a quick, silent dash into enemy positions.

Enemy security detachments north of Gafsa were quickly overrun. Before the surprised defenders could recover, air and ground attacks were launched simultaneously and the infantry quickly seized Gafsa.

This was the initial thrust in the advance of the First Division, which began on March 17. From then until April 4, the "Fighting First" knocked out the crack Italian Centauro Division, beat back three determined counter-attacks by two German Panzer Divisions, and then carried on a sustained and successful offensive.

It was the speed of the attack that took the enemy by surprise. Axis air patrols had seen no troops moving across the 45-mile stretch the day before. But when dawn came, there they were with supporting artillery and planes overhead.

Trucks, maneuvered over some of the most difficult terrain in North Africa by hardened, well-trained young men who literally grew up behind a steering wheel, had

made it possible for an entire division to be moved into battle position before the enemy was even aware of their presence.

A captured Italian battalion commander of the 7th Bersaglieri Regiment and the Centauro Division, said he thought his position was impregnable, and if the attack had not come with such surprise he felt sure it would not have succeeded.

Many of the drivers in this "Fighting First" were driving trucks only a few months before on civilian jobs.

The vehicles they were driving were rolling to the battle lines from behind-the-lines assembly lines in North Africa manned by soldiers, most of whom were drivers or mechanics back home.

Shipped to the North African theater in a "knocked down" state to conserve shipping space, trucks and combat vehicles are rushed immediately from docks to motor assembly dumps. Despite lack of facilities, they roll off the assembly line much as they do in Detroit, completely assembled and ready for use.

Competition between assembling crews is keen, with every crew trying to set new records. The average time required for a five-man crew to uncrate the parts of a 2½-ton truck and assemble it is five hours.

Speaking of the men in his outfit, the commanding officer of one motor assembly dump revealed that 80 per cent of his men were married and had volunteered for the assembly job. The majority of them, he added, could have had jobs in defense plants because of their special skills.

During the first eight weeks they were on the assembly line, the officer disclosed, the men worked 10 hours a day and seven days a week. Then they got their first pass. "They did this without a gripe," their commander added.



Right now these ordnance soldiers are busy training French mechanics to take over the assembly lines just in case their units are ordered to other stations. The French will learn to assemble practically all types of vehicles, including mobile anti-aircraft gun mounts, personnel carriers, halftracks, weapon carriers, prime movers, tractors and trailers.

The idea of the North African assembly lines was conceived more than a year ago when the War Department activated an

ordnance regiment for this work. Shortly after the opening of the North African campaign, the first assembly line unit of six officers and 112 enlisted men arrived in the battle area. With the arrival of equipment, the first assembly line was placed in operation.

The first vehicle to roll off the line was a 2½-ton six-wheel cargo truck. Since that time, other units have arrived overseas and large numbers of other trucks have been placed in operation.

## *International Wins in Court*

### — Becker Brothers Lose Expulsion Case

**W**E HAVE just received notice from Harold Donaghue, the attorney of our Local Union No. 259 in Boston, that the local union, the joint council and the International have been sustained in the case of a certain Mr. Becker who brought suit against his local union for the recovery of damages, which he claimed he sustained as a result of being expelled by the local union.

This was a rather unique and strange case. The Becker Brothers were members of Local Union No. 259 and driving newspaper wagons. They had a side business which included hauling, delivering and selling fuel oil. They had quite a few drivers and helpers in this business, which they and their mother controlled, and were the sole directors and officers of this corporation.

The drivers and helpers belonged to the Oil Drivers Union, another local of the International in Boston. The Oil Drivers had some trouble with the Becker Brothers firm and quit work by orders of their union.

The Becker Brothers left their employment as newspaper drivers and took out the oil trucks and operated them.

The Oil Drivers claimed that there was a strike on there with the employers, and that

the Becker Brothers acted as strikebreakers. They were tried before their local union and after all the evidence was submitted, they were found guilty and were expelled by the Newspaper Drivers executive board. They then appealed to the Joint Council of Boston.

The Joint Council somewhat modified the sentence of the local union. Both the local union and the Becker Brothers appealed from the decision of the joint council to the International executive board. A trial was held. They and their representatives appeared before the general executive board and presented their case. Also the representatives of the local union appeared. After hearing the case at length, the general executive board sustained the action of the local union and set aside the action of the joint council. The Becker Brothers then took the case into the courts of Massachusetts. As stated above, the courts have sustained the International Union.

In every instance where members have been foolish enough to throw their money away to attorneys, they have lost their case and lost their money and the International constitution has been sustained.

Every War Bond you buy may put a Jap or German in his grave.  
Keep on buying to keep 'em dying!



# Minneapolis Finances Healthy

## — Treasury Grows Since Trotsky Conspiracy

BY J. A. KEEFE

*Editor, Minnesota Teamster*

**S**INCE Trotskyites and their seditious satellites were stopped from playing leapfrog with the funds of the membership, Local No. 544 of Minneapolis has reached the strongest financial point in its history.

The latest report of Secretary-Treasurer Sidney L. Brennan showed a cash balance of more than twice as much as the treasury ever had during the era the revolutionary clique was throwing the union's money around like confetti.

The healthy cash reserve of Local No. 544 is in spite of the fact that expenses are much heavier than they were under the previous regime.

The union is participating in the purchase of the new Teamster building at 706 First Ave. N. in the downtown district and has paid \$10,000 toward the purchase price.

In addition to that, the union has invested \$4,000 in war bonds and is sending two cases of cigarettes per month to the men in the service.

The salvage drive of the union is a continuous operation, Brennan said. Every Sunday from eight to ten trucks set out to collect scrap, the drivers donating their time. The scrap collected is sold through regular channels and the proceeds go toward financing the war contributions of Local No. 544.

Business Agent Tony Schullo is chairman of the scrap collection committee.

"Our local has set out to build up a cash reserve large enough for any financial emergency," Brennan said. "We have not, how-

ever, adopted a niggardly policy. We spend our money freely for worthy purposes, such as the purchase of a new home for our unions and in our contributions to the Red Cross, USO and similar war organizations.

"We make frequent other contributions, such as financing a party for the soldiers at Fort Snelling.

"Our policy is to do as much as possible for our membership and for our community and nation. We have become a thoroughly American organization since we got rid of the Trotskyites. We intend to remain such.

"We still have a small nucleus of men whose allegiance is to other countries and who do not think much of the American system of democracy. We know who they are and we plan to take steps to oust them at the proper time.

"Our fight to clean our own ranks would be made easier if other unions would not accept into membership the men we have expelled. Some unions are so hungry for dues that they will take anybody, even though a man has been discredited as a union man by expulsion from our local. The labor movement cannot grow on a foundation of sedition and revolution.

"The record of Local No. 544 under the Trotsky conspirators should be a lasting example to every other union that thinks it can safely admit men who almost destroyed us. These men are enemies of American unionism and they will try to destroy any union they cannot pervert into a secret revolutionary movement."

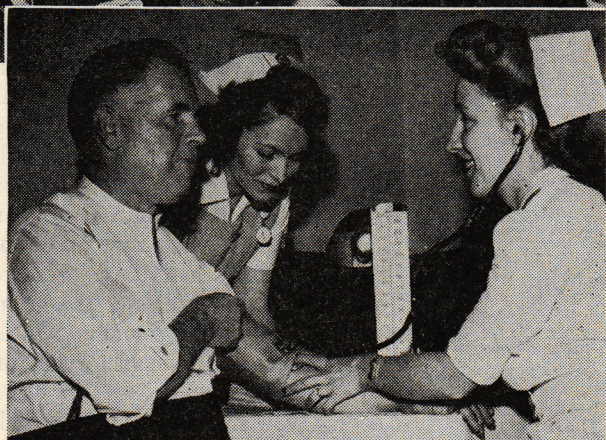
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If post-war planning is to be effective, congress must take the lead. The tragedy of 1918 in which an American President captured the imagination of the world by setting forth a common goal of peace and justice only to be repudiated by the senate of the United States must not be repeated.—*The American Photo-Engraver.*





*Here are a part of the 4,000 New York City milk drivers who responded en masse to the appeal of the Red Cross for blood. In the upper picture officials of the unions, headed by First International Vice-President Michael J. Cashal, are registering. At the right is a closeup of Cashal undergoing the preliminary tests before his blood is accepted for later transfusion to critically wounded soldiers, sailors and marines. The Red Cross blood bank has saved thousands of lives through the patriotic donations of men like the New York Teamsters.*



## *N. Y. Teamsters Give Their Blood*

**I**N ANSWER to the appeal of the Red Cross for blood to save the lives of wounded fighting men, more than 4,000 New York City milk drivers, headed by First International Vice-President Michael J. Cashal, marched into Red Cross headquarters and rolled up their sleeves.

The demonstration was organized by the Milk Drivers' Joint Board, of which Cashal is chairman. The employees of 200 milk companies are participating in the donation of blood.

Cashal believes that the precedent set by the milk drivers will be followed by other locals of the Teamsters' Union in New York

and that a high percentage of the 61,000 members will follow the example of the milk drivers.

The Red Cross was prepared to handle the influx of milk drivers and put them through at the rate of ten men every 15 minutes.

President Tobin was highly gratified with the patriotic demonstration of the New York Teamsters and in commenting on the support of Teamsters everywhere to the war program he said:

"I have received pictures of our New York joint council executive board and the Milk Drivers' officials and members of ours in



New York and vicinity. Those pictures and references made to our local offices in New York are indeed something to be cherished, and the International Union takes pride in the work of our people in that district.

"New York is doing splendid work and so are our people on the West Coast, in donating their blood, their time and their money to help in this great struggle. Los Angeles, Seattle and other points are outstanding. Information has just been received from the Chicago joint council that they, too, stand out prominently in their contributions and sacrifices made to help the war and the men engaged in the war.

"Let me extend to each and every district, especially those named above, the sincere appreciation of the International executive board for the great contributions they are rendering to their country, and be assured that when the proper opportunity presents itself, the heads of our government will be informed as to what they are doing. The day will come when those sacrifices made by our people, especially the giving of their blood and their money, will be written in the pages of the history of our country.

"Of course, you are doing it for the sake of those men who are giving their lives across the seas. You are also doing it because you are 100 per cent patriotic and American.

"You are also doing it because you know that the liberty which you and I and all of us love and for which the pioneers, your ancestors, died is at stake.

"That is the prize we are fighting for; not only for ourselves, but for our children and the generations that will come after us.

"In addition to this, you are doing another service that is not fully recognized nor appreciated, but, in my judgment, it is even greater than money or blood or time given to patriotic societies.

"It is this — you are keeping your men working, you are not encouraging defiance of governmental orders, you are advising your people to make sacrifices even when they have just grievances. The wheels are rolling delivering the equipment so necessary for the fighting forces.

"Keep this good work up. Don't get discouraged when the days get dark and when you are misunderstood and criticized by the people who don't understand, and never will understand.

"Our job is to take the good with the bad. We, as officers of our unions, are chosen because there must be something in us in the way of leadership. Therefore, if we are chosen, the bitter cup must be drunk just the same as the cup of sweetness.

"When this struggle is over, if no one else appreciates our services, we will know we have done our best to save our country and our liberty."

## Chicago Joint Council Sponsors Victory Plaza

**T**HE joint council in Chicago has sponsored a project to create a "Victory Plaza" on the LaSalle Street side of the City Hall in Chicago. Plans for the design to decorate the Municipal Building were presented to Mayor Kelly, who enthusiastically approved the action of the Teamsters' Joint Council and commended it for its patriotic spirit.

The City Council of Chicago passed unanimously an ordinance approving the project. The War Memorial is to honor the

service men of Chicago, of whom more than 6,500 are Teamsters.

The joint council of New York donated the mobile canteen unit that services the waterfront at night in New York City and is driven by members of local unions in New York who give up their time each evening without pay to answer all calls.

The Seattle Joint Council not long ago paid all the expenses for furnishing an elaborate army recreation building that was located in that district.



## Prohibition Threatens America Again —

*Brewery Workers' Union Helpless*

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

**W**E haven't wasted much of our time in recent months in referring to the Brewery Workers' International Union and their refusal to carry out the agreement entered into in Miami in 1942 between representatives of their international union and ours.

We endeavor to be as lenient and considerate as we possibly can in dealing with this subject. We have no personal grievance against any individual of the Brewery Workers' Union. We deal with the subject purely as an organizational matter and we charge the officers, mainly the secretary, Mr. Obergfell, with being entirely responsible for the failure of the convention of the Brewery Workers and their membership to carry out the agreement entered into in good faith in Miami, which agreement would have been helpful to the industry and those employed therein.

The situation of the Brewery Workers is really pitiful, and how the membership can continue to approve of the awful extravagance and wastefulness of their union in fighting a sister union and refusing to carry out any of the decisions made by the highest tribunal of labor and recognized by the courts of the land, is more than we can understand. It will eventually

be responsible for setting back the industry for many years.

Look at the position of the Brewery Workers today. There is a movement on in Wash-

ington and in many of the state legislatures to go back to prohibition, or to a substantial reduction in the alcoholic content of beer and ale.

They have almost brought about prohibition in England. The alcoholic content of ale and porter in England has been reduced to one-third of its strength before the war. Scotch whiskey, which is the only whiskey made in Britain outside of Bushmill's whiskey made in the north of Ireland, is selling for four times the price it was selling for before England entered the war, and it has been reduced from 100 or 85, to about 50 or 55 proof.

I saw \$35 paid for a bottle of whiskey, four-fifths of a quart, in a hotel in London last September, and it was then a great favor for the purchaser to be able to get it because the hotel was

rationed pretty severely.

I just heard that in the State of Ohio — and I know it prevails in Indiana — that liquor is exceptionally scarce and in some places scrupulously distributed and may be rationed.

**They Like It Here!**

The following resolution was proposed by Joseph Scheurer and adopted at the monthly meeting on April 18 of Brewery and Beer Drivers' Union No. 830 of Philadelphia:

**Be It Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 830, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, formerly Local No. 132, United Brewery Workers, are perfectly satisfied with our new affiliation. It is our wish that Brewery Workers throughout the country would affiliate with us and bring lasting peace to our industry.**

**We also wish to thank Mr. Edward Crumbock for the way he has handled the situation in Philadelphia.**



The same condition will obtain with beer and ale if things keep on as they are for another year or two, because the Prohibition Party is alive. They are on the job. They have a good argument to save the grains for food that are used in the manufacture of beer, ale and whiskey.

The Brewery Workers' International Union is helpless to render service. They are affiliated with nobody and nobody wants to talk to them or do business with them in Washington, because they have no influence.

We make this statement not with enmity or ill feeling, but because it is a fact and the members of the labor movement should know the facts. Most of them do know the facts. At one time the Brewery Workers' Union was a great influence and, with few exceptions, every member of the labor movement was willing to help them.

Today it is the other way around. People want to shy away from them. The American Federation of Labor for many years did everything in its power to keep them within the federation because the federation could be of help to them. But they went out.

They tried to get into affiliation with the CIO, but my information is that the CIO has refused them, and today the two great organizations of labor, with their great influence and power and membership, are doing nothing—or substantially nothing—for the Brewery Workers, and the prohibition movement is making headway.

If we ever get prohibition again on our statute books it will not be easy to get rid of it. Consequently the business men and the workers engaged in this industry should not laugh off the situation. They should not wait until it is too late.

The Brewery Workers' international representatives and the Teamsters' international representatives reached an agreement in Miami last year which would have settled our differences. That agreement was agreed to by Joseph Obergfell and his associates.

The other two men, Albert Kugler and Joseph Hauser, carried out their part of the contract and sincerely upheld and advo-

cated the adoption by the general membership of the agreement which they signed in good faith. They could do nothing else as real men of honor and trade unionists.

Secretary Joseph Obergfell did otherwise and the situation has grown worse and the industry is in danger.

We have just had information that in Walla Walla, Washington, and vicinity, the Brewery Workers took over two breweries which they attempted to run themselves, in order to defy the membership engaged in the breweries and to prevent the drivers and helpers, who became members of the Teamsters' Union, from making any progress.

The investment is an utter failure. The cost of the operation of those breweries has been enormous. One of the breweries is entirely closed down and the other is turning out 30 barrels of beer daily and they are hauling that beer a distance of about 300 miles in order to find a market for it.

This is our information, from authentic sources, and it didn't come from a member of our union.

No brewery can continue to function and pay its expenses under such conditions, but the general executive board, headed by Joseph Obergfell, is continuing this awful, willful, foolish, unnecessary expenditure of the money of the Brewery Workers.

There is nothing financially dishonest in any one of the Brewery Workers officials, but this is a moral dishonesty, which they must know is not good business for their membership.

Our information is that since this dispute started some years ago it has cost the Brewery Workers a total of \$1,500,000 — money for which there has been no return and for which there never will be any return.

They have paid out enormous sums in legal expenses. Of course they have the right to do this under their constitution, as long as the membership approves such proceeding. Many of the men engaged in the brewing industry are getting old. They would be unable to work at any other em-



ployment. Very soon they will be unable to work at their own employment. Nature is bound to take its toll.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if those brewery workers, in their old age, had this \$1,500,000 added to their old age pension fund, with an additional \$1,500,000 which is liable to be spent or lost in the future?

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters verbally stated that it would do many things for the Brewery Workers in case the agreement adopted by both sides in Florida in 1942 was approved by the members.

There are hundreds of places where soft drink workers are not organized, inside and some outside. There are other branches of

the trade that could be organized. A great bulwark of strength could be built up between the two organizations. After the main body of the agreement had been approved and adopted, small questions and petty grievances could be easily adjusted between the two organizations working together.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters with its 550,000 members and its enormous treasury — and it has some influence throughout the nation — certainly could and would render help to the brewing industry if that agreement had been consummated as it was expected it would be when it was signed by the representatives of both unions.

## Local 205 Pays Price of Victory

**T**HE war came close to Local No. 205 in Pittsburgh last month. It learned it had suffered its first war casualty in the death of William H. Knipling.

He was killed in North Africa on March 1, Secretary-Treasurer Charles DeRenzo of Local No. 205 reported to International headquarters.

While Knipling was the first member of Local No. 205 to be killed in line of duty, the first Teamster killed was also a Pittsburgh man. He was Charles Pollock of Local No. 636 and was on the destroyer *Jacob Jones* when it was torpedoed by a German submarine.

Knipling was 22 years old and a pilot in the army air corps. He enlisted in the Flight Engineers' Corps in October, 1941, and received his training with the 56th

Ferrying Squadron in Tennessee before he was assigned to overseas duty in Africa.

He had been a member of the union for two years before he entered the service and was employed as a milk driver-salesman for Otto's Suburban Dairy of Pittsburgh.

"William was one of our younger active members who was willing to assist in any way possible toward the betterment of his local union," DeRenzo wrote. "He was unmarried and leaves his mother, father and a brother. The brother is presently in the United States Army and stationed at Camp Hope, Louisiana."

Ninety thousand other Teamsters in all branches of the military and naval service will remember Pollock and Knipling the first time they get a Jap or German in their gun sights.



William H. Knipling

When you buy a War Bond you give a soldier a gun. When you don't buy, you give him a boot.



# *Say It Out Loud, Mr. Employer!*

## **— We Are Not Looking for "Gifts"**

**T**HE panel created by the National War Labor Board to hear evidence and make decisions in all questions of wages and hours submitted to the board by our unions and our employers, is a governmental tribunal.

Submit your evidence in any form you desire, but to the employers we suggest that they ask for no private conferences with the representative of labor on the panel, for the purpose of making certain private statements to that individual.

Keep this in mind, Mr. Employer: that individual is representing the union and is a government official, and if you have something private or personal to say to a member of that board, you can if you want to, take it up with the employers' man on the board also. But remember that he, too, is a governmental representative.

Any evidence you have to give or any statement you desire to make should be made to the board or to the representative of your industry. Any indirect insinuations to any member of that board is dangerous.

The old days of fixing things up are a thing of the past and always keep it in your head that those gentlemen on the panel are sworn to do their duty in accordance with the laws, and the federal government does not stand for any undercover suggestions intended to influence any member of the board.

We have reasons for making these statements.

Any employer who offers a bribe in any form to a union representative is liable to prosecution.

Any union representative who accepts bribes in any form, such as a trip with expenses paid or a gift of money for himself and his family, can be prosecuted under the Anti-Racketeering Law, in our opinion.

Anyone covering up bribe givers or takers

can also be called to account. This is the law now.

The Hobbs Bill, if passed by the senate as approved by the House, enlarges by loose language the present Anti-Racketeering Law.

If a business agent tells an employer that unless he puts his employee into the union at once and pays the initiation fee the union will tie him up, etc., that statement can be defined as a threat, and the Hobbs Bill establishes a penalty of ten years in prison or \$5,000 fine.

It is true that such severe penalty may not always be imposed, but a prejudiced judge can give that penalty for violation of the Hobbs Bill.

The great danger is the language, which can be interpreted as threatening language, "forcing an employer to pay out money against his wishes." That can easily be interpreted as a violation of the law, because even if you make an employer pay the contract wages or overtime, when he questions the overtime, then he is paying out money against his wishes.

The danger is not in what has been said by congressmen voting for the Hobbs Bill, but the danger is and always has been in the interpretation of the law by judges.

But any agent of a union accepting moneys of any kind from an employer, for his own use or as a gift for his wife and family, or accepting a trip paid for by the employer, is guilty of a violation of the Anti-Racketeering Law as it is now written, without the Hobbs Bill ever becoming a law.

It now looks like the Hobbs Bill will become law and then unions and their agents will certainly have to watch their step. If it does nothing else, it can keep us defending ourselves in court half the time at enormous expense.



## Wisconsin Local Wins "E" Award

### — Milwaukee Joint Council Holds Big Charity Ball

BY JOHN S. PICAGO

*International Representative*

**T**HE efforts of Wisconsin Teamsters last month resulted in the award of two army-navy efficiency pennants and substantial contributions to war and peacetime charity.

The efficiency pennants were given the Shefford Cheese Company and the Kraft Cheese Company in Green Bay because of the high efficiency of the two plants in turning out food products for the army.

Both companies have contracts with Dairy and Creamery Employees' Union No. 507 of Green Bay and it was the efficient work of the union employees that resulted in the army recognition.

The charity activities centered in Milwaukee where Joint Council No. 50 staged its annual May ball in the huge civic auditorium for a crowd of 20,000 persons that taxed the capacity of the six separate halls of the auditorium.

The Teamsters engaged six dance bands, one for each of the halls.

From the proceeds of the dance, a mobile canteen was purchased for the Salvation Army for use all over the state. The Teamsters also bought a field ambulance for the United States Army. The mobile canteen unit is similar to those used by the Salvation Army attached to General Montgomery's

fighting Eighth Army in North Africa.

It carries a kitchen and can be used for emergency work.

The balance of the dance proceeds were turned over to the Milwaukee Boys' Club and will go to complete a recreation building for the club at Lake Keesus.

The recreation building was started with funds raised by the Teamsters' ball in 1941. The big charity event is now in its 11th year and will continue permanently as a yearly manifestation of the keen interest of the joint council in the civic affairs of Milwaukee.

The last company to receive the coveted "E" pennant was the Shefford Cheese Company. The award was made for the army by Col. R. L. Isker and individual pins for the employees of the company were presented by Lieut. A. T. Samuelson, U. S. N.

A color guard from the Coast Guard hoisted the pennant to the company's flagpole where it fluttered proudly below the Stars and Stripes.

W. R. Sinclair, president of the company, and James J. Bowen, president of the union, accepted the award and promised the same kind of cooperation in the future which won the recognition of the armed services for fine service on the home front.

### WE CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE DICTATORS

John L. Lewis is doing the rank and file of labor more harm than all the anti-labor groups combined. As in biblical times, he, just like Samson, is tearing down the Temple. His actions are close to traitorous to his people and to the nation. Americans are not interested in the merits of the case—they see but one thing—John L. Lewis could stop the walkout of his miners—he is the dictator of that organiza-

tion — by his policy of negation and do nothing he tacitly encourages the rank and file to destroy their own organization.

In the framework of a democracy we cannot afford to have dictators, be they big or little. All that John L. Lewis has come from the sweat of labor and now he would destroy the thing he and they built.

—*Mobile Labor Journal.*



## *Locals Must Pay Own Bills*

### **— International Can't Carry Them All**

**L**IKE all human institutions, the more some people in our union get, the more they want. The International president wrote a letter to each congressman, which was published in our April issue, explaining what the International Union does with its money. All our members should study it carefully.

Since we established the Statistical Department in Washington the expense of that department has run up to almost \$70,000 a year because it has been expanded, and every month some additional expense is attached.

When our convention created the Statistical Department and the Legal and Legislative Departments, they did not increase the revenue to the International Union one penny.

Millions of dollars have been added to our wages through its work. We will endeavor to help you in Washington before the federal boards or before the panel of the War Labor Board, but we will not pay for stenographers, accountants, or any other preparation of your case. That's the very least the local union should do.

We have local unions that wanted to refund to us the cost and the expenses of one of our statisticians who rendered service to them, but we would not accept it.

On the other hand, we have local unions that expect us to get them a statistician to sit in their office, do all the work, prepare the case, pay all stenographic bills, etc., and they want it all for thirty cents a month.

We have repeatedly advised our people to set up in their districts some kind of local statistical department which would assemble all the necessary information pertaining to their trade, the cost of living, and other details, so that when a wage contract came up or a wage reduction was threatened, the local statistical bureau would have local

detailed information ready for the International Statistical Bureau in Washington, if the case is to be tried before the War Labor Board in Washington or before the panel of the War Labor Board.

Again, local unions should remember that they cannot expect the International Union to do their local work on the small remittance they pay. Several representatives and senators have written letters of appreciation and thanks for the explanation of our financial conditions and what we do with our money, how it is expended and the amounts we charge our members. Those gentlemen were surprised and gratified at the information contained therein and the question that confronted them was how we could do so much on so little.

Some delegate in a certain joint council in the Middle West recently wanted to know what the International Union was going to do with the nine million dollars it had in government bonds.

They are in the defense fund and this investment is earning us 2½ per cent. But in proportion to our large membership of 550,000, we have less now than we had 20 years ago. Ten million dollars now isn't as much as two million dollars was 20 years ago with 100,000 members.

This International Union, if it is attacked on every side at the ending of the war by attempts to break down our working conditions, will spend all its money in the defense of the union. The sensible unions now will build up treasuries, local and International, to protect them when the years of depression, starvation, and certainly unemployment will come to us.

For every successful harvest there will be lean harvests, lean years, and it is pitiful that union representatives do not see the wisdom of building their defenses for the future.



It is just unfortunate that local unions that get two, three and four dollars a month dues from their members are so anxious to keep it all for themselves and pass on every little expense to the International Union because of their contribution to it of one cent a day per member.

Narrow local ideas and selfish policies indicate small mentality. Perhaps many local officials do not know, but the fact is that but for the influence, strategy and

diplomacy of the International Union several of our unions would now be fighting for their lives because of adverse legislation and adverse legal decisions.

Most of our unions are engaged in inter-state commerce, therefore they come under federal laws. Local or state influence will not protect them.

Therefore the only hope is the International Union. Build it up. Make it strong financially and numerically.

## *No Room for Revolutionists*

### **— Teamsters Outlaw Religious Bigots, Also**

**O**UR MEMBERS, especially in Minnesota and the surrounding states, should not forget how the Dunnes and their associates tried to build up the Trotsky Party within Local Union No. 544 of Minneapolis and how they tried to involve the Farmer-Labor Party and other groups in that experiment.

Many of our "milk and water" members went along with them, or at least did nothing to stop them.

They pursued the course of least resistance and in many instances they contributed to the Trotsky Party either in fear of the Dunnes and their followers or because they thought that was the nice, easy thing to do.

It remained for the International Union to put its shoulder to the wheel, spend its money and its energies, and eliminate this dangerous serpent within our organization in those states north of Illinois.

This policy applies to all other revolutionary secret organizations that might raise their heads out of the ground and try to undermine our movement.

Under our constitution no individual or group has the right to inject anything of a religious or sectarian nature into our unions.

Such a thing happened many years ago in

a certain large union in Chicago and it was immediately stamped out by the International Union. Its sponsors were expelled.

The labor movement of the nation, especially our International Union, is an economic institution composed of working men. It favors no particular religious or sectarian belief.

It leaves it to the individual to go to church or not to go to church, but the individual must not interfere with the rights of the other members.

Anyone who is so thoroughly ignorant and bigoted as to conspire against another member because of his religious beliefs is an agitator of the lowest type and violates his obligation to the union.

This country is fighting for its very life. The best blood of the nation is being given up freely in every part of the world.

If we have serpents who are spreading in secret the poison of hatred amongst men because of their religious beliefs, or lack of religious beliefs, these serpents must be stamped out. Their actions are not only a violation of our International constitution and our union obligation, but also are an insult and an injury to the men who are giving up their lives for the cause of the four freedoms,



# Keep Out of Food Councils

## — International Forbids Locals to Affiliate

**T**HE International Union absolutely forbids our unions in any city to be affiliated with what is commonly called "food councils." We have many reasons for this decision by the general executive board. In the first place, we have agreements with our employers in the milk, bread and meat industries; also regarding the coal or oil that is delivered to restaurants and hotels.

We have union shop agreements and guaranteed contracts that cannot be broken. The innumerable other trades within the restaurant business are in many places only poorly organized and their whole dependence is on the Teamsters stopping deliveries going into these places.

We have absolutely nothing to gain by the food councils and we have everything to lose.

Especially we know from past experiences the serious trouble which has been brought to our local unions by some one of those different occupations or trades calling a strike and picketing those business places where they in many instances had no members or were poorly organized and they expect and demand that the Teamsters, because they are in the so-called local "food council," to stop work immediately.

The question of our becoming a part of those food councils in different places has been brought into conventions of the American Federation on several occasions.

Conventions of the Federation of Labor have usually referred such resolutions to the executive council. The executive council has not approved of those food councils. The Teamsters have advised the Federation of Labor that they would not permit their local unions to belong to those food councils for many reasons and there is no law in the federation, even if they adopted the resolutions, to compel the Teamsters to become a part of the food councils. There are many other reasons that we could give for insisting that our unions, under no circumstances, should not be a part of any local food council. The reasons are better not given here. They would not be helpful to the labor movement.

If some of our unions have affiliated with the food councils — and we do not know of any just now except one — because they did not understand our reasons and our laws and our rules, we request them to immediately send a letter to the food councils and withdraw or sever their affiliations. Otherwise the International executive board will be compelled, for reasons stated above and for many other reasons, to take further action against the officers and membership of the local union.

Our people should remember that we know and have sound reasons for such decisions as stated above.

## RESPONSIBLE LABOR SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT

When John L. Lewis attacks the President's order and the WLB, and puts a saddle on the justified grievances of the miners and rides them into battle against the government and the war effort, he is thinking how he can best smash up the President's stabilization program and how to hurt and slow down the war effort.

This is evident when he joins hands with the profiteers in an attack on the idea of stabilization. Responsible labor will support the President — will urge and encourage him to swift and bold action on the world front and in establishing a stabilized economy on the home front.

—Building Trades Union Press.

Winning the war is the first and only order of business—And that goes for every one of us.—Rochester (N. Y.) Labor Herald.



# *Labor Grew on Persecution*

## — It Must Meet New Challenge Today

BY DANIEL J. TOBIN

**J**UST NOW it seems to be the fashion to nail labor to the cross. Some few of us have lived through such periods before and after each period of persecution and falsifying and willful misrepresentation of labor the final result has been that such procedure has strengthened labor. Labor is stronger today, after all the years of persecution, than it ever was in its history.

There is one regrettable obstacle, however, that must be deplored by every true trade unionist, and that is the division within the ranks of labor. We well remember the persecution of the National Association of Manufacturers when it was led by Van Cleave and by D. M. Parry, who were the two outstanding labor haters of the country some thirty years ago.

In those days they were backed up by the steel corporations and by the Erectors' Association, which prosecuted the McNamaras with the aid of the Burns Detective Agency. They were also backed up by the labor-hating corporation representatives in both the senate and house in Washington — men of the type of Senator Penrose and Senator Aldridge, Judge Taft (who afterwards became President), and innumerable others, many of them from the ranks of the Democratic Party who served the corporations instead of the people.

We have gone through all this cruel experience before, and such battles for freedom and justice only strengthened us as the years rolled on. We have repeatedly said in these columns that the persecution of labor by employers controlling large numbers of workers was responsible for the passage of the national labor law.

Many of those employers discharged men for considering membership in a labor union. Many of those employers worked

their employees long hours and paid them no overtime.

The southern, non-progressive states, which in many instances were bordering on slavery, paying men, women and children an average of ten cents an hour for picking cotton or working in the cotton mills, were responsible for the passage of the wage and hour law, establishing a minimum of 40 cents an hour for workers engaged in any kind of interstate employment, and overtime of time and one-half.

The manufacturers of New England had moved their factories and their machinery to the southern states in order to avoid paying a decent wage to the textile workers of the North.

Today those same employers are wishing they were back in New England dealing with what we considered then and now, high class, skilled, free workers.

Every step that labor has made in progress over the last 40 years has been made because of the persecution of labor similar to what is going on now.

Nearly every newspaper that you pick up is out with special columns or with editorials denouncing labor for its strikes and for its absenteeism, etc.

It is useless to say that there has been a fraction of one per cent of hours lost from all causes. We cannot get those things in the papers. The papers will not print them.

Repeatedly it has been stated by the President of the United States and by many other leading, liberal-minded, fair men, that absenteeism is insignificant and infinitesimal. Those who write about absenteeism, or talk about it, do not know the reasons for the individual being absent.

For instance, a person might be sick with a heavy cold. The average person is subject



to two or three colds each year. Doctors advise them to stay in the house and stay in bed for two or three days. With the rapid changes in atmospheric conditions, colds have been more prevalent this winter. Then, when you work a person six days a week, eight or ten hours a day, that person is bound to tire out, especially when many of those employed were never employed continuously before and many others are doing work in which they never were engaged—up until the time our country entered the war.

Undoubtedly there are thousands of cases where some member of a worker's family is seriously ill. This is particularly true of women workers, organized and unorganized.

In England absenteeism prevailed extensively during the first months of the war until men and women got used to the employment, made arrangements for their transportation, and got properly adjusted to the many changes resulting from the war.

We have been in the war only 16 months, but England has been in the war almost four years, and still there are those few professional labor haters that endeavor to besmirch labor in England, charging unnecessary absenteeism.

Mr. Knudsen, Donald Nelson, and many others who are top men in government war production openly state that our production is beyond their anticipations of a year ago and that we are on the upgrade and increasing our production week after week.

Still we have writers and publicists who saturate, or attempt to saturate, the public with stories denouncing labor's willful inaction due to absenteeism.

Who's going to win this war when it is won, as it will be won? The myriads of workers in the factories, in the mines, in the shops, in the railroads, and on the sea.

Who's fighting the war and carrying the bayonets or manning the machine guns? A large percentage of them are the sons or the brothers of the toilers.

Why, then, does anyone think that labor hasn't more at stake in the winning of this war than any other class? We ask you why. The answer is that the enemies of labor refuse to admit the truth.

We must fight this adverse legislation aimed to throttle and shackle labor, both in Washington and in the several states of the union, as we have fought before. And if we lose, don't worry. We will come back and win.

And we promise you that whoever lives when this campaign against labor has ended, will see labor stronger than it was before. This is the history of labor, and history repeats itself.

But to do this, every man in labor must make himself a special agent to fight against the encroachments of bitter enemies who are hiding behind the flag and falsely charging labor with wrong-doing, but who in reality are exposing their own prejudices and hatreds, and in effect are representing the employers and using the attacks on labor as a smoke screen to befog and cloud the minds of the public and take their attention away from the profiteering corporations which many of those legislators represent.

Be alert! Make it your business to guard your union. Send messages, individually and from your unions, to all representatives and senators denouncing the attempts to destroy labor by unjust legislation. Do something. Do it now! Don't wait for the other fellow. It is your job. It is your freedom. It is your liberty that is being attacked, because your union is yours and not the property of any officer of the union.

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Maybe Senator Taft thinks that Americans have lost their senses and will elect as President a glorified question mark like Gov. Bricker in a time of world crisis when all humanity flounders and gasps for a leader. But we don't. We think that Bricker will still be side-stepping on the streets of Columbus when next inauguration day rolls around—*The Ohio Teamster*.



## Don't Appeal Everything to Washington — *Settle Your Own Controversies*

**T**HERE is no doubt that many of the disputes referred to federal agencies on wages and hours could be settled at home.

Employers in many instances are willfully stalling, refusing to enter into agreements or settlements back home in order to prolong the agony by postponing the case until it comes to the National War Labor Board.

Some of them, of course, have excuses that they can't get an increase in their rates of hauling unless the government grants permission. In many instances this is true, but in other instances it is not true, nor is it always absolutely necessary that an increase in hauling rates be obtained, especially in local trucking.

The merchants, of course, should be permitted to increase rates slightly when the cost of operation is increased, but the merchants again stand out with the old alibi that "We can't increase our overhead costs because we would have to add that on to the cost of our merchandise, and the government interferes."

This is all bunk in 90 per cent of the cases. Bakery and milk concerns also are willfully stalling in many instances, and when they go to Washington in nearly every case they get the worst of the bargain.

In the eleven Central States last year on over-the-road trucking, in order to settle the matter locally, we might have accepted a slightly smaller amount than we finally obtained for over-the-road drivers from the decision of the War Labor Board. Don't take this as meaning that we were not entitled to what we got and more, from the War Labor Board, but in order to bring about a settlement and to save both sides

endless trouble and expense, we might have perhaps accepted a slightly less settlement.

What we want to impress upon our employers is that they are making no money in going to the War Labor Board. We advise both the men and the employers to settle their cases at home.

We have called these things to the attention of President Roosevelt and we laid before him several cases of willful stalling on the part of the employers. We presented cases where they refused arbitration or conciliation in order to stampede Washington with their big string of lawyers who are living on the fat of the land as a result of the money that has been squandered by employers to defeat justice by capriciously refusing to settle their cases at home.

How is it that we settled all those cases a few years ago at home without going to Washington? Both the employers and the employees are dangerously gambling by going to Washington. They may think they are playing a clever game but they are playing with dynamite. Our advice is to go through all the channels of settlement on wage contracts or any other misunderstandings, back home, and keep away from Washington.

And we say to our members, even though we have met with considerable success in Washington, it would pay you not to come to Washington if you can adjust your affairs at home.

The government agencies in Washington are prejudiced against whichever side appeals to them without trying every other means of settlement first. When the war is over, you will have to settle your own controversies.

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W. Lee O'Daniel, who got himself elected governor of Texas and then U. S. senator on a slogan of "Pass the Biscuits, Pappy," is now doing his best to disrupt the morale of the men who "Pass the Ammunition."

—The Union Times, New Haven, Conn.



## *A Tribute to a Friend*

BY THE EDITOR

**T**HIS is May 10, 1943. Just a few moments ago I received an account of the death of one of my dearest friends in the labor movement, a man whom I respected and honored and admired, Thomas J. Lyons.

A few weeks ago he and Mike Cashal had dinner with me in Miami, Florida, where he was taking a few days rest; and while he was not feeling well, there was no thought running through my mind that he was nearing the end of his life. We had a pleasant hour and we passed many jokes across the table, and we were happy. And tomorrow he is to be buried, and that is the end, in this life, of one whom I believe was as honorable a man as could be found among men in our time.

Tom Lyons was in the last war and he has a son in this war. He was an express driver in New York and many years ago he was elected local representative of that fine organization of Railway Express Employees, Local Union No. 808.

In a little while I had recognized his ability, and had noticed his manner of handling men, his power of reasoning with men who disagreed with him, and his eventual success in convincing them to his way of thinking. He had all the qualities that make for an efficient, able, understanding, capable labor representative.

In addition to that, he was the soul of honor, scrupulously honest, faithful to his friends, devoted to his mother, wife and family. I appointed him as an organizer, to serve in New York City or any other place

from Boston to Cleveland where he might be called. He never disappointed us. Almost always, under difficult circumstances, he made good on the job.

This has not yet been written but I think it should be stated now — that reluctantly and only for the sake of the labor movement, did I ask Tom Lyons to take another position in labor.

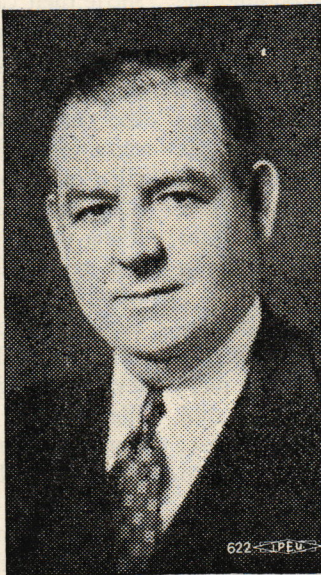
Within the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, of which I am a member, we had seen that age, the Great Reaper, was taking toll amongst our members in that body and that younger men had to be brought in to carry on.

Frank Morrison, who was secretary-treasurer of the federation, was in his 78th year and age was telling on him. We found it necessary to make a change in his position, to retire him at a decent salary and expenses and to replace him with a younger man.

The members of the executive council looked around the field and finally decided that George Meany, who had rendered splendid service in New York as president of the State Federation of Labor, and whose record in that position had been unequalled by any individual who had gone before him, should be chosen as secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor.

George Meany knew nothing about it until the proposition was placed before him during a convention of the federation.

He said: "I cannot leave the position I now hold in the New York State Federation



Thomas J. Lyons



of Labor unless we have a man that can carry on the work of that organization in the way in which it has been carried on in recent years, one who has the confidence and respect of everyone, one who has the ability to defend the trade unionists of New York State whenever it is necessary to do so, one who is above suspicion financially, one whose character is unblemished."

And this one man had to be chosen from within the membership of the executive board of the state federation of labor.

It was finally decided that Tom Lyons be asked to accept the presidency of the state federation until the next convention of that body.

Very reluctantly I consented to this arrangement because I, too, needed Tom Lyons in our work in the eastern field. Our organization was growing; he had established himself; he had three or four years of training; men liked him and respected him; and he had the confidence and the respect of our members and our employers.

But the price was demanded — that he be released, and I had to consent because of the greater question at issue. Sometimes since then I regretted my decision. However, he accepted, consented to the plans laid out for him by his friends because he knew that they, too, were struggling to find the right way out.

There wasn't a member of the trade union movement in New York who didn't respect and admire Tom Lyons in his new position. I remember once Governor Lehman saying to me in a meeting called in New York in 1940 by the Milk Drivers that the one man he looked to in New York on labor matters was Tom Lyons and that even though he did not always agree with him, he respected his advice and opinions.

The present Governor Dewey also held Tom Lyons in the highest regard as a man of honor and decency.

There never was extended to any member of organized labor, and to few men in public life, such an outward expression of gratefulness as was given to Tom Lyons on

the morning of his funeral, which was May 11, 1943.

Solemn high mass of requiem was celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral. For an hour before the service began, the cathedral was almost filled. The procession to and from the cathedral was led by Mayor LaGuardia of New York City. Side by side, marching with him, was the ex-attorney general of New York State, who was the candidate for governor on the Democratic ticket, John J. Bennett.

Numerous other men in public life and in the labor movement were present at the funeral. The procession extended for over a mile. I think it is perhaps the first time in the history of the trade union movement in which the mayor of the greatest city in the world marched in the funeral procession of a humble member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The only expression from the mayor was: "In my humble way I desire to pay my respect to an honest, honorable, faithful, reliant, intelligent representative of labor; a man who, even if you disagreed with him, commanded your respect. Tom Lyons was not only the friend of every honest public servant, but he himself was a faithful servant of the working people."

An expression of this kind coming from a great public servant, and similar expressions from other great men in public life, is a tribute beyond value; but the greatest tribute of all is the gratefulness of the working people, whom Tom Lyons represented, for the unselfish service he rendered.

We all feel lonely at the loss of a friend. Life seems to be a little more empty and it is difficult for us to carry on without those friendships and without the assistance and reliance of those whom we trust and whom we respect.

There are only a few in whom you can have implicit confidence. But we must face tomorrow and meet its problems and carry on for the sake of those who depend on us, even though we have to do so handicapped by great burdens and many sorrows.



Life often seems cruel and bitter, but it also has its rewards, and to all of us there is hope in the future and there is this inspiration that we obtain when we look on and appraise the life of a man, a friend, a worker, like Tom Lyons; and that hope and inspiration is that when we are called — as called we will be — we can leave the slate as clean with unselfish service rendered, having the respect of those who knew us, having the love and the gratitude of our family and our

friends for having strived to be clean, honorable, noble, unselfish, like the friend who has just left us, Tom Lyons.

I know and believe that in the verdant brilliancy of the land beyond the grave, his kindly nature, his loving loyalty, his blessed smile, his innocent playfulness will bring smiles of gladness and sweet songs of rejoicing to his mother and other pals who went before. So, to Tom Lyons the writer bids a short farewell.

## *Don't Pass Your Bums to Us*

SOMETIMES spongers and professional beggars come into the International office with letters from some local officer, or with a due book that is three or four months behind, and ask for financial help.

This is to notify our secretary-treasurers and all of our local officers that they must not give letters of introduction to anyone to be presented to the International officers in Indianapolis or in Washington or elsewhere.

If a man is paid up and in good standing and has his due book, that is the proof that he is a union man; but even such an individual, if he is the right kind of union man, never uses his book for begging purposes.

If he is caught in a serious trap financially and is the right kind of union man, he can wire the secretary-treasurer of his own local union and it is up to that secretary-treasurer to handle the case.

Even now, when there is a scarcity of

labor, we have broken-down booze and dope fighters who will not work. They cannot get away from the hobo mania with which they are possessed. But the man to blame is the local officer or the local member who gives them any kind of written statement that would introduce them to any official in our union or in any other union.

At one time there was an exchange of union cards — some of which had been stolen — between those tramps and they exchanged information when they were ganging up together. If, for instance, an iron worker knew of soft pickings in one of his cities, he told the teamster, and vice versa.

There is no charity fund in the International Union to take care of tramps, and no real union man uses his card, especially in these days of unsurpassed prosperity, for begging purposes.

## CONGRESSMEN PROTECT HITLER STOOGES IN U. S.

It is difficult for the folks out here on the Pacific Coast to believe that there is actually a clique in congress determined to prevent the prosecution and conviction of a gang of Nazi boosters. Yet it is a shameful fact. Ham Fish has a bill that would prevent the prosecution of some dozens of Hitler stooges and turn them loose on the country to continue their seditious propaganda.

Which reminds us that Ham Fish was one of the loudest howlers the isolationist organization

had — up to Pearl Harbor. He changed his tune after the Japs attacked us, but he opposed every measure to strengthen our army and navy, or fortify the Pacific islands, before that fateful day.

Shortly after the declaration of war on the Japs, Lindbergh told a group of isolationists that they had better be quiet for a time but that later they would be able to go into action again. Apparently, Ham Fish doesn't want the isolationists disturbed.—*Washington Teamster*.



# The Quislings Gag Winchell

**H**ANS VON KALTENBORN has no censorship difficulties with the radio chains when he goes on the air to blast labor or President Roosevelt.

Neither has Upton Close, the commentator who wears his hair like a sea gull's nest.

Anybody who wants to crack at labor or President Roosevelt can find a spot and a welcome on the radio.

But when Walter Winchell speaks a friendly word for labor and for the national administration, he runs into censorship difficulties.

This censorship is not a government wartime censorship to restrict military information. It is a voluntary code adopted by the radio chains themselves to permit them to muzzle any commentator who doesn't speak their language.

The way it operates, one commentator can attack the President but another commentator cannot defend him. So when Winchell attempts to expose some of the men who attack the President, he finds his copy cut.

Much of Winchell's copy is an exposure of seditious activities in the United States, particularly in the halls of congress. He has shown how the thread of treachery runs through the legislative branch of the government. He has named the Quislings and the Benedict Arnolds who hide behind their congressional immunity to sabotage the nation they swore to uphold and defend.

Anybody would think that the radio companies with all their ballyhoo about free speech and democracy would be the first to expose treason in our own government.

But there is an element of profit, as well as an element of politics. In the first place, the radio corporations don't think much of President Roosevelt. Neither do the Quislings.

Therefore, the radio corporations do not want to discredit the Quislings. They want the Quislings to discredit Roosevelt.

And from the standpoint of profit, many of these Quislings have worked themselves onto important congressional committees where they can put the squeeze on the radio corporations.

They can threaten to make it tough for the companies unless the companies make it tough for Winchell.

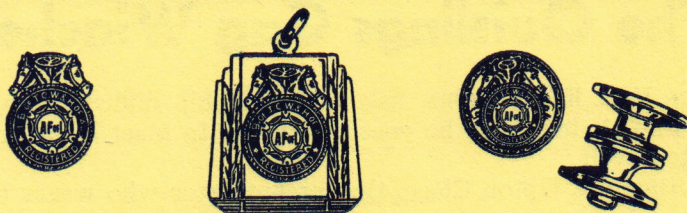
Instead of standing up and fighting like men for their fundamental rights, the radio corporations weasel and appease. Instead of proving for all time their value to their country in war, they run up an umbrella and quiver like Chamberlain in a Munich cloudburst.

And so the Blue Network continues to cut Winchell's copy. They let us hear only what they want us to hear.

If Winchell was blasting labor and Roosevelt, they wouldn't hand him a gag. They'd give him a megaphone.



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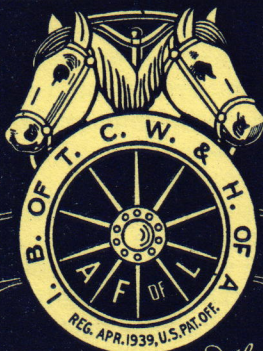
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